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Peter Kean to Susan Ursin Niemcewicz, January 2, 1809

Peter Philip James Kean

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Beaufort Jan 2^d 1809.

Another year has passed over our heads in quietness and in peace, may the next be more propitious to my dear parent, may her health and her happiness increase and may her wishes be fulfilled. it is a long time since I have had the pleasure of eating my meals years dining with you, the time will I hope soon arrive when we will not only eat our New Years dinners but our daily dinners together, when you enjoying the fond attentions of a daughter, and listening to the rattle of a grand child shall exclaim I am truly happy.

With respect to the Georgia property Mr Barnwells advice is that you should send me a power of attorney to sell all such as you hold in your own right or which is held in trust for you if there is any claim in the trust deeds which will empower you to sell by and with the consent of your trustees. there is one tract held in trust for you and myself which can not be disposed off except you should choose to leave it, it would then be necessary to send a power with a clause empowering me to make leases and to receive rents also to make an attorney or attorneys to act in my stead. you have a letter from Judge Stevens in your possession which gives a full description of the Georgia lands. the tract of 2200 or odd acres mentioned there as conveyed to R Barnwell are to be reconveyed to me and I am to pay a ballance there is against the estate in favour of J Stevens. I shall visit ~~that~~ the lands and ascertain as nearly as possible their value next week our friend is to furnish me with 2 horses & a servant & John is to lend me his milkey. if I do not find it expedient to sell the power can do no harm, & if it is proper to dispose of any of it the sooner the power arrives after my return from Georgia the better. I am myself of opinion

23,000
3,500
3,000
2,500

that the last will be the case as there have been applications for two tracts at different times to Mr Barnwell.

1st Of the Carolina property. Mr Barnwells account will stand with a ballance off 500 in our favour as nearly as I can judge from what he says to me I have always understood you that the ballance what ever it might be was mine, the letter of the will makes $\frac{2}{3}$ mine & the remaining $\frac{1}{3}$ yours. It is a matter of very little consequence to me to whom it belongs, but for the sake of coming to a full settlement with more ease I would like to have it in my power to receive that one third. I have heard Santee casual shares bring \$300. if you shua it you can send me a power to sell your third or if you wish to hold that property unproductive as it is and is like to be for your life and mine, tell me how many shares there are & take one third of them I will sell any share portion of them if I can get any thing like that sum for them. apropos have you the certificates in your possession - the Catawba shares are worth nothing - My property here I intend to sell if I can get 18 thousand dollars for it. I have offered ^{the property to} Capt Lawrence at \$45 which he would have been glad to have given me but for the times, I expect however to effect a sale of those lands to Mr Robinson on the following terms. 16 dol an acre for the 800 acres payable in one, two, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7 years the whole sum bearing interest from the day of sale & secured by a mort gage of the property, the 280 acres on Hilton head I expect to get about 15 dollars for. seven years credit, the money payable in two instalments & the 400 acres on Davis island I shall be content to take ^{the} same sum pr acre for. the house and lot I will not sell for less than \$2500. two lots near Mrs. Gen Barnwells \$500 dol cash & the lot Mr Verdier had \$200th. Mr V said he would be glad to treat with me for the house & the lot mentioned ^{in better terms} & I have already refused \$2000 for the house, if I can not sell at a rate to give me 18. thousand dollars for the lands

you have any money to dispose of 1 or two thousand
dollars would be of great service to John Barnwell
at the present juncture who will give ample security
and pay the interest annually. if you can do this
you will put in my power to oblige a friend and lessen
in some measure the obligations due to this kind family.

Mr Barnwell wishes you if you can to continue
his bond for 11 thousand dollars for some years
he is to secure it by a mortgage if you think
proper and the ^{interest} money to be paid in N York. he says
if this could be effected he will purchase all my lands
for 10 thousand dollars. I forgot to mention that the Paris
Island tract is the best place ^{any one would think of} for
a public dock yard.

My love to Mrs Williams, Mrs Armstrong
Cousin Peggy and all enquiring friends. I did not stay with
the Mayors while at Richmond. adieu yours with affection
Peter

23
Barnwell & Co
8 January 1809

Mrs Hemmings

Elizabeth Town

New Jersey

Jan 28 H. 1809.
Shed in New York.

I have heard from W. J. he is with his sisters who are
well.

1809 Jan 28
Barnwell & Co